Japanese Patent Laid-open No.: Hei 4-13184

Japanese Patent Laid-open Date: January 17, 1992

Japanese Patent Application No.: Hei 2-116536

Japanese Patent Application Date: May 2, 1990

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## Specification

- Title of the Invention
   Music-Title Retrieval Apparatus
- 2. What is Claimed is
- (1) A music-title retrieval apparatus comprising:
  storage means for storing stored information
  including a first note number showing the height of the
  sound of a MIDI signal serving as an interface connecting
  musical instruments to each other and a first note on/off

input means for inputting at least a portion of a piece of music, the title of which is to be retrieved, as retrieval information including a second note number of a MIDI signal;

showing the length of said sound for each music title;

comparison means for comparing retrieval information with said stored information and outputting a match signal if a second note number included in said retrieval information at least approximately matches any first note number included in said stored information; and

output means for outputting a music title corresponding to a first note number accompanied by a match signal.

3. Detailed Description of the Invention

[Applicable Industrial Field]

The present invention relates to a music-title retrieval apparatus for searching for a music title on the basis of a portion of the melody of the music.

[Prior Art]

Fig. 3 is a block diagram showing the conventional music-name retrieval apparatus disclosed in Japanese Patent Laid-open No. Sho 54-51643. In the figure, reference numeral (1) denotes a storage apparatus for storing coded musical scales of music. Examples of the storage apparatus are an LSI memory, a magnetic tape and a magnetic card. Reference numeral (2) denotes input means for generating coded information representing a pressed key employed in a keyboard. Reference numeral (3) denotes control means for supplying a clock signal to the storage apparatus (1) on the basis of the information representing a pressed key and operating the input means (2) in order to obtain information on a "1" key. Reference numeral (4) denotes a matching circuit for comparing information received from the input means (2) as the coded information representing a pressed key with information received from the control means (3) as the information on a "1" key. Reference numeral (5) denotes output means. Reference numeral (6) denotes a pulse

generator for detecting the period of a system. Reference numeral (7) denotes a clock signal for shifting a register employed in the storage apparatus (1) by a bit count corresponding to information on a musical scale. Reference numeral (8) denotes data of one musical scale. Reference numeral (9) denotes a one-shot signal. Reference numeral (10) denotes information supplied by the keyboard as coded input information on a musical scale. Reference numeral (11) denotes information output by the control means (3) with a timing adjusted to the coded input information (10) as coded stored information including the data (8) supplied to the control means (3). Reference numeral (12) denotes an output signal. Reference numeral (13) denotes a system signal for informing the control means (3) that a comparison result produced by the matching circuit (4) is a mismatch and making a request for information on a next pressed key.

In the configuration described above, for example, codes of 0001, 0010, 0011, 0100 and 0101 are stored for musical scales of Do, Re, Mi, Fa and So respectively in the storage apparatus (1). When a key of the input means (2) is pressed, a clock signal representing the pressed key is supplied to the storage apparatus (1) by way of the control means (3). The clock signal causes a code

stored in the storage apparatus (1) to be shifted sequentially from the right end in order to output data (8). Then, the matching circuit (4) compares coded input information (10) with coded stored information (11) and a result of the comparison is displayed on the output means (5) as a musical scale.

When the "Re" key is pressed instead of the "Do" key supposed to be pressed, a warning is output and a request to repress a key is made. In this way, a correct solution can be obtained.

[Problem to be Solved by the Invention]

As described above, the conventional music-title retrieval apparatus displays a music title stored in the storage section such as a cassette tape for storing music titles and musical scales in response to operations carried out on keys. In this way, the conventional music-title retrieval apparatus raises a problem that, by merely entering a portion of a piece of music to the input means, it is not possible to display a music title selected among a large number of music titles as the title of a piece of music including a partial melody represented by the entered portion.

It is thus an object of the present invention, which addresses the problem described above, to provide a

music-title retrieval apparatus for displaying a music title selected from a large number of music titles as the title of a piece of music including an entered partial melody by merely entering the partial melody forming a portion of the piece of music.

[Means for Solving the Problem]

The music-title retrieval apparatus provided by the present invention includes:

storage means for storing stored information including a first note number showing the height of the sound of a MIDI signal serving as an interface connecting musical instruments to each other and a first note on/off showing the length of the sound for each music title;

input means for inputting at least a portion of a piece of music, the title of which is to be retrieved, as retrieval information including a second note number of a MIDI signal;

comparison means for comparing retrieval information with the stored information and outputting a match signal if a second note number included in the retrieval information all but matches any first note number included in the stored information; and

output means for outputting a music title corresponding to a first note number accompanied by a

match signal.

### [Functions]

In accordance with the present invention, a partial melody of a piece of music, the title of which is to be retrieved, is compared with a melody stored as a MIDI signal and a music title is output when the partial melody at least approximately matches a portion of the stored melody. Thus, the present invention is capable of searching for a piece of music or a plurality of pieces of music at least approximately matching the entered partial melody.

# [Embodiment of the Invention]

Each of contemporary electronic musical instruments such as a synthesizer is provided with a MIDI (Musical Instrument Digital Interface) terminal in a configuration making the instrument capable of performing a piece of music on the basis of performance information including a MIDI signal.

- 4 types of performance information including a MIDI signal are listed as follows:
- (1) Note number representing the height of a sound by a keyboard key number.
- (2) Note on/off representing the length of the sound.

- (3) Velocity representing the strength of the sound.
  - (4) After-touch for putting a vibrato

The present invention uses the note number of the performance information.

An embodiment of the present invention is described as follows. In Fig. 1, reference numeral (14) denotes input means for inputting the whole melody of a piece of music, the title of which is to be retrieved, or inputting only a portion of the melody. In the case of a musical instrument having a keyboard according to the MIDI, such a melody is entered to the input means (14) by pressing the keyboard or by entering a MIDI signal itself. Reference numeral (15) denotes storage means used for storing a large number of pieces of music as coded MIDI signals. The storage means (15) is used for storing data representing a note number and a note on/off for every music title. Reference numeral (16) denotes comparison means for comparing a MIDI signal input by the input means (14) with MIDI signals stored in the storage means (15). The comparison means (16) outputs a match signal if at least the note number of the MIDI signal input by the input means (14) matches any of the note numbers stored in the storage means (15). Reference

numeral (17) denotes output means for outputting a sound saying a music title accompanied by the match signal or displaying characters representing the music title accompanied by the match signal on a display unit.

Next, the operation of the present invention is described. When the user remembers or knows the note of the melody of a piece of music, the title of which is to be retrieved, the input means (14) inputs the note in the configuration shown in Fig. 1 or the operation represented by a flowchart shown in Fig. 2. The input note is converted into MIDI information (step S1 of the flowchart). Let us assume that retrieval information including Do, Re, Mi, So and So is entered. In this case, the note numbers are converted into respectively "60", "62", "64", "67" and "67" (each of which is generally a hexadecimal number). The comparison means compares the note numbers converted into MIDI information with note numbers of the stored information stored for a large number of pieces of music (step S2). In the comparison process, ambiguity of the memory of the user searching for a music title is covered by bringing about a notenumber range on each input note number. That is to say, predetermined note-number ranges "59 to 61", "61 to 63", "63 to 65", "66 to 68" and "66 to 68" are brought about

on the input note numbers "60", "62", "64", "67" and "67" respectively. If the result of the comparison indicates that the desired melody was not found in the retrieval process, a message stating "Not found" is displayed (step S3). Otherwise, a piece of music represented by stored information matching the retrieval information is selected (step 4). Then, the title of the selected piece of music is supplied to the output means (17) (step 5). In this case, the melody of the selected piece of music can also be output along with the title as well.

In general, for a selected piece of music represented by a number written on a piece of paper in a karaoke room, a disk is fetched on the basis of the number. In accordance with the embodiment described above, however, by merely entering a melody of a piece of music, the piece of music can be automatically performed.

In addition, when the user remembers the melody of a portion composing a piece of music but forgets the title of the piece of music, the piece of music can be retrieved with ease.

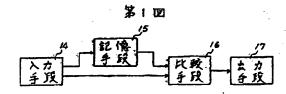
On the top of that, in the case of a symphony with a long performance time including a melody in the middle thereof, the melody portion in the middle can be stored in the storage means.

[Effects of the Invention]

As described above, in accordance with the present invention, the user is capable of knowing a desired piece of music among a large number of pieces of music each including a melody similar to the desired piece of music by entering the remembered melody of the desired piece of music.

## 4. Brief Description of the Drawings

Fig. 1 is a block diagram showing an embodiment of the present invention; Fig. 2 shows a flowchart referred to in explanation of the operation of the embodiment shown in Fig. 1; and Fig. 3 is a block diagram showing the conventional music-title retrieval apparatus. In the figures, reference numeral (14) denotes input means, reference numeral (15) denotes storage means, reference numeral (16) denotes comparison means and reference numeral (17) denotes output means.



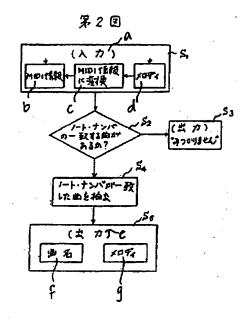
[Fig. 1]

14: Input means

15: Storage means

16: Comparison means

# 17: Output means



[Fig. 2]

a: Input

b: MIDI information

c: Conversion into MIDI information

d: Melody

 $S_2$ : Does music with matching note number exit?

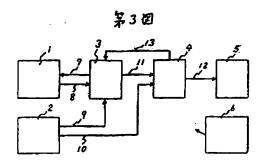
 $S_3$ : (Output) "Not found"

 $S_4$ : Extract music with matching note number

e: Output

f: Music title

g: Melody



[Fig. 3]

# @ 公 開 特 許 公 報 (A) 平4-13184

@Int. Cl. 5

識別配号

庁内整理番号

❸公開 平成4年(1992)1月17日

G 10 G 1/00 G 09 B 15/00 G 10 K 15/04

Z

7346-5H 6763-2C 8842-5H

3 0 2 D 8842

審査請求 未請求 請求項の数 1 (全4頁)

60発明の名称

曲名調査装置

②特 頭 平2-116536

②出 頤 平2(1990)5月2日

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明 細 忠

 発明の名称 曲名調査装置

2. 特許請求の範囲

3. 発明の詳細な説明

【庭菜上の利用分野】

この発明はメロディの一部から曲名を調査する 曲名調査装置に関するものである。 -

【従来の技術】

 報だけシフトさせるクロック、(8)は一つの音略のデータ、(9)はワンショット信号、(10)は銀部から入力された音略のコード化入力情報、(11)はデータ(8)が初卸手段(3)を介してコード化入力情報(10)のタイミングに合せて出力されたコード化記憶情報、(12)は出力信号、(13)は一致回路(4)で比較された結果が不一致の場合に、制御手段(3)に報告である。

上記構成において、例えば、ド、レ、ミ、ファ、ソという音階の曲に対して、各々0001、00101というコードが記憶装置(1)に記憶されている。ここで、入力手段(2)でキーが押下されると、記憶装置(1)に割御手段(3)を介してクロックが送られる。クロックによって、記憶装置(1)に格納されたコードが順次右端からシフトされ、デー

山名を表示させる曲名調査装置を得ることを目的 とするものである。

### 【課題を解決するための手段】

## [作用]

この発明においては、調査したい曲の一部のメ

タ (8) が出力される。そこで、コード化入力情報 (10) とコード化記憶情報 (11) とが一致 问路 (4) で比較され、この結果が出力手段 (5) ) に吝酷として表示される。

また、『ド』のキーを押すべきところで『レ』 のキーを押した場合、登告するとともに再度押下 命令を発し、正解を待つようにしてある。

### 【発明が解決しようとする課題】

従来の曲名調査装置は以上のように、曲名、移 階等が記憶された記憶装置から、キー操作に応答 して例えばカセットテープに記憶された曲名を表 示させるので、入力手段から曲の一部を入力する のみで、多数の曲の中から入力したメロディを含 む曲名を表示させることができないという問題点 があった。

この発明は上記のような問題点を解消するため になされたもので、一部のメロディを入力するの みで、多数の曲の中から入力したメロディを含む

ロディとMID)信号で記憶されたメロディとを 比較して、ほぼ一致した曲名を出力するので、ほ ほ一致した一曲又は複数曲の曲名から目的の曲名 を探せる。

### 1 発明の実施例]

最近のシンセサイザ等の電子楽器には、MID (Musical Instrument Digital Interface)端子が設けられ、MIDI信号からなる演奏情報により楽器が演奏できるように構成されている。

このMIDI信号の演奏情報は次の4種類である。

- (1) 音の高さを鍵盤番号で表したノート・ナンバ
  - (2) 音の長さを表すノート・オンノオフ
  - (3) 音の強さを表すヴェロシティ
  - (4)ヴィブラートを掛けるアフター・タッチ この発明は上記演奏情報の内、ノート・ナンバ

のデータを使用するものである。

次に動作について説明する。第1図及び第2図 において、自分が記憶しているか又は一部のメロ ディが音符として分っているときは、入力手段(

) する。この場合、メロディも併せて出力するよう にすることもできる。

> 一般にカラオケの選曲はペーパに置かれた曲対 応の番号からディスク類を取出しているが、上記 実施例によれば、メロディを入力することによっ て自動的に曲の演奏を行うことが可能である。

さらに、他の一部のメロディは覚えているが、 山名が分らないような場合でも容易に探しあてられる。

また、交響曲等のように中心になる曲があって 演奏時間が長いものの場合は、その中心のメロディの部分を記憶手段に記憶させておいてもよい。 【発明の効果】

以上のように、この発明によると、自分が記色 しているメロディを入力して、同じようなメロディを含む多数の曲の中から自分の探している曲を 知ることができる。

4. 図面の簡単な説明

14)から音符で人力する。入力された各符はM | D | 情報化される(ステップS1)。例えば、 [ド」[レ][ミ][ソ][ソ]と調査情報が入 力されると、ノート・ナンパが「60」「62」 164] | 67] [67] (一般的には16進数 で表される)に変換される。このMIDI情報化 されたノート・ナンバと記憶手段(15)に記憶 された多数の曲の記憶情報のノート・ナンバとを 比較手段で比較する(ステップS2)。比較する 場合には、調査しようとする人の記憶のあいまい さをカバーするために、調査情報のノート・ナン パに159~61」161~63」163~65 」「66~68」「66~68」のように所定の、 幅をもたせておく。比較した結果、該当するメロ ディがみつからなかったときは、「みつかりませ ん」と出力される(ステップS3)。記憶惰報と 調査情報とが一致した曲を選択(ステップ4)し て曲名を出力手段(17)に出力(ステップ5)

第1図はこの発明の一実施例を示すプロック図、第2図は第1図の動作を説明するフローチャート、第3図は従来の曲名調査装置を示すプロック図である。図において、(14)は入力手段、(15)は記憶手段、(16)は比較手段、(17)は出力手段である。

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